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"Maine" (excerpt from the Proceedings of the National Woman Suffrage Association Convention) 1910

National Woman Suffrage Association Staff
National Woman Suffrage Association

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Augustus E. Willson promptly signed it, and it became effective some time in June, ninety days after the adjournment of the Legislature.

LAURA CLAY, President.

MARY E. ROARK, Corresponding Secretary.

MAINE.

In addition to the routine work of our auxiliaries and departments, Literature, Press, Enrollment, Legislative Organization, we continued the circulation of the Petition to Congress. Members of the Maine State Grange, the Woman's Christian Temperance Union and Socialists lent willing hands. But the petition, all ready to send to Headquarters at Washington, was burned in the fire which totally destroyed the home of the president. But the educational value to us remains, the coming in contact with the people and learning their attitude toward the question, finding here and there, in unexpected places, believers and workers. I am convinced that if we had earnest women and men to make a house to house canvass of our wide domain, the result would be surprising.

The annual convention was held in Old Orchard, in October, with Mrs. Mary Ware Dennett and Mrs. Teresa Crowley, of Massachusetts, speakers.

For ten years we have held a field day at Ocean Park, and this year a meeting of the same character was held at Old Orchard Camp Ground, with a more varied audience and many young people. Mrs. George F. Lowell, of Newton, Mass., was the speaker in both places.

We have conducted a booth at the Food Fair, held in Portland, with good success.

We have contributed in a small way to the National treasury, and to the Susan B. Anthony Fund.

An unusual number of opportunities have come to present our cause to other organizations, and always some one says, "I did not know that suffrage means so much," but how shall they believe unless they hear, and how shall they hear without a preacher, and how shall they preach except they be sent, and whom shall we send when all our people are so busy with every good work?

We are earnestly looking forward to the time when Maine will be able to report some definite work accomplished, some victory gained, and so we work on seeing here and there a bit of sunshine, a little freer press, a little more willingness to discuss the question, a little less prejudice toward the public activities of women, which develop power, and a demand for equality of rights in service.

Respectfully submitted,

FANNIE J. FERNALD, President.